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Joint Policy Committee Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter 101 8th Street Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Joint Policy Committee:

We have heard recently from TALC that the Livable Communities Platform needs strengthening. We share TALC's concerns and add our voice to their preference that, before MTC funds transit expansion projects, cities should have to:

2/18/05

- Plan for a high threshold of housing along corridors, separate from a jobs threshold.
- Promote affordable housing in station areas.
- Create station area plans that include: 1.) studies that analyze minimizing the space dedicated to parking, 2.) bicycle and pedestrian plans for safe routes to and within station areas, and 3.) blocks no more than 500 feet in length to ensure walkability.

In addition, Ecocity Builders would like you to consider strengthening well chosen nodes along corridors for especially high density buildings, emphasizing housing, and in association with public open space in the form of plazas or small parks.

All these things we believe are very important for a sustainable future.

Richard Register, President